

The Observer

THINGS INTERESTING TO THE DEAF

VOL. IV

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1913

NO. 99

Boosters of "Boosterville"

At the monthly meeting of the Boosters, on December 21, at the Hanson residence, P. L. Axling was elected president of the club.

The secretary reported three new members to the N. A. D. ranks in Carl Garrison, John Skoglund and Hugo Holcomb. A letter was read, from Her Majesty, the queen of Spain, received by Mr. Hanson, acknowledging the receipt of the circulars he had sent and thanking him for his interest.

From Oklahoma had come a request for help; as it was feared an effort would be made to convert the school there to the oral ranks. Mr. Hanson's reply was that at present his time was fully taken up with the Nebraska matter, and besides, his books showed Oklahoma had no members enrolled on the N. A. D. list, and after the time he devoted to that state a year ago, he felt he could do nothing further for the present, beyond sending out some circulars. Since his reply, a few Oklahomans have hastened to become N. A. D. boosters.

P. L. Axling was able to report very pleasing results from the petitions he had been sending out, seeking help in the effort now being made to bring Nebraska back to the combined ranks. To date \$84.45 in cash had been received, with many yet to hear from. Among the number 42 had contributed a dollar each, entitling them to membership in the N. A. D. But the indifference of the deaf in Nebraska toward the matter is surprising. In spite of this Mr. Hanson thinks the matter worth fighting for. If the school could be brought back to the combined method, the N. A. D. would gain greatly in prestige as an organization and show what it is capable of doing when a determined effort is made in any undertaking.

True Partridge moved that the club go on record as favoring a postponement of the 1913 N. A. D. convention to 1914. A vote of the members showed they were divided on the subject, the vote standing 6 to 5 in favor of the resolution.

The secretary called attention to the flourishing condition the N. A. D. was in at the present time, to date there being some 400 members paid up, reports to the contrary notwithstanding that the membership had dwindled down to 90. After the Norfolk convention there was a roll of several hundred members, but through failure to keep up dues, there were

only 75 on the list when the Colorado convention assembled. Today, after two and a half years of the present administration has passed, the roll still runs up into the hundreds. Not a deadhead among them, on the "no dues, no expense" plan, but every one has backed up his membership with cold hard cash. Enough said.

A. W. WRIGHT.

HOW THE NEBRASKA ORAL LAW OF 1911 WAS PASSED.

Below are given some side lights on how the Oral Law was passed through the Nebraska Legislature in 1911. The information has been obtained from various sources, but is believed to be reliable.

There is a parents' organization to promote the teaching of speech to the deaf. They are few in numbers, but well organized and appear to have plenty of money.

A lobby was maintained at Lincoln during the sessions of the last legislature. There was always one, sometimes two or three working for the bill. If one had to go away, some one else would take his place. Who paid their expenses?

The Association Review and other literature, reports, etc., were freely distributed on the desks of members of both houses, during January, February, and March. Who furnished them?

The lobbyists were not parents who had children in the Omaha school, except one. Among the most active lobbyists were parents who had children in the Northampton school.

One of the active workers for the bill was an ex-superintendent of the Omaha school.

The authorities of the Omaha school asked for a hearing before the committees to which the bill was referred, but the request was not granted.

At first the deaf were given to understand that the bill would not be acted on favorably, or that the governor would not sign it. When it came up for passage it was rushed through, and the governor signed it without paying any attention to the protests made against it.

Governor Aldrich was defeated at the last election.

A new state board of control will be in charge of the school hereafter.

The oralists are actively at work to maintain their hold and strengthen their position.

The National Association of the Deaf will endeavor to have the law amended so as to retain the use of the sign language at least for chapel services, lectures, etc.

SOMETHING THAT IS DOING.

Seattle, Wash., December 28, 1912.
Olaf Hanson, President,

National Assn. of the Deaf:

I beg to submit for your consideration the following brief report on the fight against the Nebraska oral law:

When you requested me to take charge of the work my first step was to secure the names and addresses of representative deaf persons in communities where there were a number of the deaf. I followed this up by sending each of them two blanks—one a petition to the members of the Nebraska legislature asking for the repeal or amendment of the oral law, and the other a blank to be filled out by those desiring to contribute financially toward the expense fund. Approximately 225 of each class of blanks were sent out, and they began coming in during November, the petitions very generally signed and the contributions exceeding my expectations. Comparatively, but a small proportion of the blanks sent out have been returned to date. I estimate that there are between 1500 and 1700 names signed to those I received.

The money contributions have been very gratifying. It was a condition that those contributing a dollar or more should receive full membership in the National Association for the Deaf. I have received a total of \$122.35 to date, and find there are 68 parties entitled to membership, or, if already members, entitled to have the money applied on their dues.

I am making an effort to enlist the interest and assistance of certain parties in Nebraska, who will be in position to render us valuable aid at Lincoln at the proper time. The responses are encouraging, and I am very hopeful of attaining a successful outcome.

Respectfully submitted,

P. L. AXLING.

WHY NOT MORE.

The report of the Seattle N. A. D. Booster Club found in this issue will, we think, be found interesting.

By the way, we would like to see more of the booster clubs started throughout the country. They may be made both social, instructive and beneficial.

NEBRASKA ORAL LAW.

An Act to provide for a change to the oral, aural and lip-reading method of instruction and training of pupils in the Nebraska School for the Deaf and to provide for the education of those pupils qualified for such instruction and the training in other deaf schools pending the change of method in this state.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska:

Section 1. All children hereafter admitted to the Nebraska School for the Deaf and all children who have not advanced beyond three years in the course under present methods in said school shall hereafter be taught and trained in said school by the oral, aural and lip-reading method to the exclusion of the deaf alphabet and sign language, unless incapacitated by mental defects or malformation of the vocal organs and all pupils now advanced beyond said three years in the course shall be taught and trained in the oral, aural and lip-reading method in the regular courses of study and by means of special conversational courses to be put into effect to the fullest extent which is feasible and practicable.

Sec. 2. Pending the complete change of method in the higher grades as provided for in Section 1, upon application of any parent or guardian of any deaf child residing in the State of Nebraska, capable of being instructed and trained by such method, such deaf child may be placed in any other school teaching and training in the oral, aural and lip-reading method, preference being given as far as practicable to schools selected by the parent or guardian, and an allowance shall be made each year to such parent or guardian toward the expense incident thereto in such an amount as in the judgment of the Board of Trustees of said Nebraska school for the Deaf would equal the cost to have educated and trained said child at the Nebraska School for the Deaf during each year said child shall attend such other school, to be paid out of the general appropriations made for the maintenance of the Nebraska School for the Deaf and in the same manner other charges are met and paid.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent and Board of Trustees of said Nebraska School for the Deaf to enforce the provisions of this Act

**CONVENTION REPORT READY
JAN. 10TH.**

Mr. O. H. Regensburg, Chairman of the Committee on Printing, authorizes the following announcement:

The report of the proceedings of the Colorado Convention will be ready for distribution January 10th.

A charge of 15 cents will be made to all members of the Association for postage and mailing expenses.

To non-members the price is 75 cents, including postage.

All members in good standing, i. e., those who have paid their dues to date, and all who were in good standing at the close of the Colorado Convention, are entitled to free copies on payment of 15 cents for postage and mailing.

As Mr. Regensburg is in Chicago, money should be sent to Mrs. O. H. Regensburg, P. O. Box 23, Los Angeles, Cal. Send money order. Do not send stamps. Send your full and correct address so that the books will not be lost in the mails.

It is suggested that where several members live in the same place they get together and send the money in a lump sum, with names and addresses of each member.

The book will be the best yet issued by the Association. It is handsomely printed, replete with information, spicy, and worthy of a place in any library, and every member should have a copy. There will be a handsome picture of the Colorado Convention.

School papers please mention the report, so that all may get copies, who are entitled to them.

A number of copies will be sent to public libraries and scientific societies, and to foreign parties interested.

**STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP,
MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION,
ETC.,**

of The Observer, published semi-monthly, at Seattle, Washington, required by the Act of August 24, 1912.

Note—This statement is to be made in duplicate, both copies to be delivered by the publisher to the postmaster, who will send one copy to the Third Assistant Postmaster General (Division of Classification), Washington, D. C., and retain the other in the files of the postoffice.

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Office address, 4747 16th Ave. N. E.

Name of Managing Editor, W. S. Root, 1026 32nd Ave. N.

Name of Business Manager, L. O. Christenson, 1426 4th Ave.

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Average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date of this statement. (This information is required from daily newspapers only.)

LEWIS O. CHRISTENSON.

(Signature of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of Oct., 1912.

(Seal.)

HOWARD H. STARTZMAN,

Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, residing at Seattle.

(My commission expires Feb. 16, 1915.)

Seattle is the Metropolis of Washington

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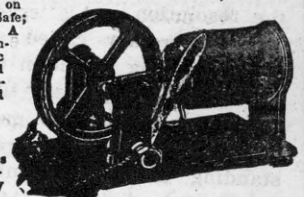
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THE OBSERVER

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, JAN. 2, '13
 AGATHA TIEGEL HANSON, EDITOR
 W. S. ROOT - - - Associate Editor

The Observer is issued every two weeks on Thursday. It is published in the interest of the deaf everywhere.

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3

THE SEASON.

Christmas has come and gone once more, bearing to a busy world its beautiful message of peace and good will. The old year is dying, and when this editorial appears in print it will have passed into history, and a new year will be begun. Now is the time to pause in our various ways of heedlessness, to reflect, and to make new resolutions which we shall not keep. Jest aside, there is something about the annual passing of the old year that inclines one to a little serious thought, to a review of the past, and a hope for the future. And in these days of rush and hurry and slam and bang it IS good to sit down and consider, and make a New Year resolution which will be kept.

STATE CONVENTION.

The Washington State Association of the Deaf will hold its convention next summer.

By the way it is not about time that those localities which want it send in invitations to the president.

Spokane and Tacoma, we understand, desire the honor of entertaining. Many wish the convention to be again held in Seattle. The deaf of this city seem content to let it go to some other city this time.

SPOKANE MATTERS.

We print in this issue a reply from the other side in the "Mr. O'Leary matter." Having given each side a chance to reply to the article in the issue of Nov. 21, we shall now cut it out and let our Spokane friends settle it within their own borders. The public is not interested and we have no means of knowing which side is right.

APPRECIATION

The Observer has always prided itself on its ability to attract the attention of thinking deaf of the country. We have never pandered to the cross-road gossip. Our aim has been to uplift the deaf and gain the support of those who are making history for the deaf today—by good works.

The many high compliments we have received from the leading deaf of the country show that our efforts are appreciated.

The following from Rev. J. H. Cloud appears in the January number of the Silent Worker. Rev. Cloud is one of the best known clergymen in the country and a man of wide literary experience so his words are very gratifying to us. He says:

"The Observer published at Seattle by Lewis O. Christenson, and edited by Mrs. Olof Hanson with W. S. Root as associate editor, is a wide-awake, bright, newsy, conservative, independent bi-weekly, deserving of the support of all who have any real interest in affairs pertaining to the general welfare of the deaf. We knew little of the paper and saw less of it until our visit to Seattle, and to the office of publication last summer. We subscribed for it then and there and since then a more intimate acquaintance with the paper has only served to increase our liking for it."

1913--THE CONVENTION

During this year the National convention will be held. We propose to give our readers the news in a boiled down ready to take form. We shall try to secure short communications from deaf of national reputation. In return we want the deaf everywhere who are interested in the betterment of their class to subscribe. Send today for the new year has begun.

A CARD FROM MRS. MILLS.

We received a card last week from Annette T. Mills of Chefoo, China. She says: "Please tell your friends that we use the combined method, more combined than you have it in America, for we use the Lyon Phonetic Manual, as well as the other. I find it a great help to the oral pupils. We use pantomime and pictures with the beginners but drop the former as soon as the pupil has foundation for language. Our greatest effort is put on teaching all to read and write Chinese—I cannot go into a full discussion now."

MR. HOWARD IS SOME ON WORDS.

Our Duluth friend, Mr. Jay C. Howard, is editing the exchange department of the Silent Worker at present. To read what he writes makes us feel that we missed much at college. We roomed with Jay at Gallaudet, but never knew him to have studied Zoology so industriously as to come into possession of such knowledge as he has displayed in the following closing sentence of his diatribe on the "deaf imposter:"

"The 'deaf imposter' would be as extinct as the family of apodal cirripeds, called the proteolepadidae or as the ichtyopterygia, known in the common speech as the ichthyosaurus.—Michigan Mirror.

MR. JAMES MEAGHER, IF YOU PLEASE.

Hereafter it must be Jimmy Meagher no more, but Mr. James Meagher, if you please.

James has reached fame. In the last issue of the Silent Worker is a full page article and across the top in large type a line reading, "By J. Frederick Meagher."

This, we think, constitutes enough to make James famous, so hereafter his name must be James F. or J. Frederick. If you add P. S., N. B., O. K., or a few more letters at the end so much the better. At least be sure to show proper respect to Mr. Meagher in his present exalted station. We must never hear of "Jimmy" again.

LOCAL NEWS

Pay your subscription at once. Do not promise.

Charles Gilmore of Sunnydale was in town on business.

Lay it to Root. He is probably to blame. If not he ought to be.

Miss Jennie Wade is spending some time with her sister, Mrs. A. W. Wright.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ecker of Elma were recent guests of Mrs. Ecker's mother in town.

David Krause of Mount Vernon forwarded dollar for the Gallaudet-monument repair fund.

Alfred Stendahl was in town to spend Christmas. The city seemed a little lonesome to him for some reason.

George Hanson, who has been employed near Vancouver, B. C., was in town for a few days a week ago. He left here for Portland.

Messrs. Hole and Harris, and Myrtle Hammond dined with the Hanson's on Sunday, to meet Mrs. Meagher.

A letter from L. T. Rhiley announces he has been on the sick list. He expects to return to Seattle soon.

Albert Hole is busy at work notwithstanding several hearing men have been laid off in his shop.

Rev. Fedder will hold service for the deaf next Sunday at 3 p. m., corner of 22nd and East Union St.

Rudy Stuhlt, Hugo Holcomb and Sherman Coder came over from Bremerton Tuesday night to see the old year out.

Bert Haire is doing cobbler work evenings. Shoes may be left at the Observer office and he will come for them every Friday.

Roy Harris is assisting his father and brother at present. He recently distributed among his deaf friends some fine calendars from his father's factory.

Our young friends Carl Garrison and John Skoglund were in town last week. They seriously contemplate entering Gallaudet college next fall.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morrison, December 9. Weight, 9 pounds. There seems to be no danger of race suicide in Ballard.

Mrs. J. F. Meagher spent ten days in the city during the holidays. Quite a number of evenings at home were held in her honor. Time forbade her visiting all her friends.

Miss Myrtle Hammond entertained thirteen friends at her home last Friday evening (as far as known nothing unlucky followed the day and number.) Favors were won by Mrs. Wright and True Partridge. Mrs. Hanson and Miss Morris had a spirited contest for the booby prize which was won by the former by one the worst. Refreshments were served and it was after midnight before the jolly crowd could tear themselves away.

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MASQUERADE.

The committee in charge of the masquerade for February 22nd is Roy Harris, True Partridge and Miss Morris.

They have secured the large Carpenter hall. Elaborate preparations are being made. Admission for gents will be 50 cents, ladies 25 cents.

Refreshments will be served.

The deaf and their friends should keep this date and make preparations to attend as the committee will attempt to make it the greatest event in the history of the deaf in this state.

COME AGAIN.

The Observer office received a call last Saturday from Mr. and Mrs. Seeley and their entire family from Tacoma—a fine looking crowd, by the way. We were glad to see them even if they did come by the photographic route.

Mr. and Mrs. Seeley have a son and four daughters, none of whom, however, can excel the mother in good looks.

SOCIABLE SOCIAL.

The monthly social of the P. S. A. D. was held last Saturday evening at the home of Miss Cleon Morris. The attendance was large. Every one wore a look of satisfaction.

Albert Hole wore his "native" costume and kept every one giggling.

Refreshments were served and a general sociable time enjoyed.

MINCE PIE FOR CHICKEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER.

Miss Myrtle Hammond is a young lady of many accomplishments, among these is the ability to cook (young men take notice). Myrtle's mother and two big sisters placed on her shoulders the responsibility of making the mince pies for Christmas dinner. Elated at this Myrtle decided they should be done up brown. When they came from the oven they were things of beauty and temptation. The maker placed them on the back porch to cool. Now, roaming in the backyard was the family chantecler, with blood in his eyes over the recent loss of several near relatives. No sooner had the door closed on our young friend than he began his revenge, and when Myrtle returned a few minutes later the beauty as well as most of the contents of those pies had disappeared.

ON THEIR CLAIM.

Jesse West and Harry Augustus, accompanied by a hearing friend left Dawson recently for the formers' claim on Sixty-mile river. They took a ton of provisions and will spend several months digging gold. In the spring, unless fortune smiles bountifully upon them, they will return to their machine work in Dawson.

MR. CODER TO FALL IN LINE.

Most of us had placed Sherman Coder in the permanent bachelor column, but such is not to be.

Mr. Coder expects before many moons to take unto himself an attractive young hearing lady.

We extend hearty congratulations. Mr. Coder has a good position at the navy yard and some property, so there is no reason why he should not have a good home of his own with a queen in it.

WILL NOT BE SPRINKLED.

Our Associate Editor has been for several years secretary and treasurer of the Washington Park Chapel Sunday School. Friday evening before Christmas the Sunday School had its annual Christmas exercises, and the Superintendent held up a handsome umbrella, and called out the name of Mr. Root. That young man was positively meditating over an impending editorial for the Observer in a corner, but he was quickly hustled forward and awarded the umbrella, which he received with surprise and confusion. It was a handsome silk one, a gift from all the officers and pupils of the Sunday School. A. T. H.

The Silent Review

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PORTLAND.

Miss Fay Newth of Philomath, Ore., and Alex Wooley of Unity, Ore., were married Xmas evening at the bride's parents' home. The event was quite a surprise to their many friends. They will make their future home on a farm at Unity, Ore.

All the Stars of the Portland Deaf played a game of basket ball with the Vancouver school pupils Saturday, the 21st, the latter winning the game 25 to 18.

The Frats had a social gathering on the 23rd when W. F. Schneider and Chas. Lawrence gave lectures which were enjoyed by all present.

In honor of Mrs. H. P. Nelson's natal day, Dec. 21st, her husband invited Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Reichle to spend the evening at their home. The evening was passed in playing table games, after which a dainty lunch was served.

Ye Scribe was the recipient of a beautiful silver bread plate from the Observer publisher for Christmas, which she prizes highly. Inside it is engraved "The Observer, 1912."

Chas. Lynch spent Xmas with his parents at Salem and before returning here he stopped a couple of days with Arthur Stalker at Silverton.

Rebecca and Ralph Reichle were baptized at the Church of the Strangers, Sunday before last.

A good number of pupils from the Oregon School came home to spend the holidays.

Miss Lotus Valentine of Salem, was the guest of Mrs. Lana Smith for a few days.

Messrs. Norton and Bailey of Boise, Idaho, have been spending several days here.

SPOKANE N. W. ASSOCIATION.

A. Ross Slightam is contemplating taking a vacation shortly after the first of the year. He has not decided which kind of game he will hunt yet—Dear or Bear.

Jacob Schmandt from Portland, and formerly of Los Angeles and Denver, is in Spokane looking over business. He expects to hunt in the mountains around Kalispell, Mont., this winter.

Mrs. Lee O. Brown, Mrs. Jelme, R. Hemich, Lee R. Smith, Jacob Schmandt and S. G. Raison are the latest initiated members to the Northwestern Association.

Lee Roy Smith of Viola, Idaho, spent a short visit in Spokane on his way to Northport, Wash., last week.

Whoop'er up for Spokane—July 1 to 4, 1913.

Stop. Look. Listen! Programs will be out soon.

A. E. Arnot of Spokane sent \$1 for the Gallaudet repair fund.

One of the amusing things in life is to see how some people are always ready to join the crowd—as backboneless as a jelly fish.

TACOMA.

Virtue isn't always its only reward. As witness our long continued habit of telling the truth (?) and all the truth about everyone, not even sparing the editor or the "office devil." The utmost we hoped for in return was to be allowed to pursue our way unmolested.

Hence, imagine our pleased surprise on receiving for Christmas a handsome silver celery dish bearing the inscription, "The Observer," with our initial above and 1912 below. Moral: "Tell the truth and shame the devil."

Mr. Foster and Mrs. Hammond are enjoying their annual two weeks' vacation. Mr. Foster is putting in his time trying to pull trees up by the root on his place. He is anxious to get his ground in condition for garden.

Sunday was a rainy day, even for this part of the world, but, nothing daunted, Mrs. Seeley set out in good time to attend the monthly meeting of the Tahoma Club, way out near Parkland, at the Foster's. Arriving in a rather damp condition, she was welcomed by Mrs. Foster with the words: "Excuse this cap, will you? It and this apron were among my Xmas presents and as I wasn't expecting company today I thought I'd wear them." She certainly looked fetching in them and needed to offer no excuse, but that didn't occur to Mrs. S. just then.

"Not expecting company! What about the club meeting?"

"The Club? It met here last night. Mrs. S. had forgotten the change. However, she spent an hour or so admiring the many pretty gifts Mrs. Foster had received for Xmas, then took advantage of a lull in the downpour to return home, if not a sadder at least a wiser woman.

From the last issue of the "Washingtonian" we judge that the editor, Mr. Meagher, has fanned himself into a fever with the "Palmetto Leaf." Tu, tu, now!

Certainly, of course, we all know small men make the best husbands, and we will mention the name of one more whom he from modesty forebore naming, i. e. Mr. Meagher. By the way, the reason small men are the best husbands, is because they are easier bossed.

Man is the perfection of creation, the mind is the perfection of man, and the heart is the perfection of mind.—St. Francis of Sales.

Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns. I am thankful that thorns have roses.—Calendar.

A SAD ACCIDENT.

"Say, Johnny, did you hear of the man breaking his neck on Second Avenue today?"

"No, Bill, what was it?"
"They do say he tried to see the top of Seattle's new 42-story building while standing right by it."

IMPOSTER BILL.

The deaf of Washington are now at work on an Imposter bill to be presented to the next legislature of this state. A. W. Wright has the matter in charge. He has already interviewed a number of local legislators and finds no objection to this bill.

SOME MORE FROM SPOKANE.

Editor the Observer.

We, the undersigned persons, swear that the article published in the Observer of Nov. 21st (headed "What's the Matter With Mr. O'Leary?") is correct.

(Signed)

A. ROSS SLIGHTAM,
EDWIN J. WHIPPLE,
ALFRED E. ARNOT,
WILLIAM R. HEMRICH,
LEE O. BROWN.

PUGET SOUND ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Every deaf person in the Puget Sound country is or should be a member of this association.

Why?

Because in union there is strength—we can help one another.

Also come and meet your fellow deaf for a social time, intellectual advancement and moral uplift.

Business meeting, second Saturday night of each month. Social, fourth Saturday night of each month.

Meeting at Carpenter Hall, Fourth Avenue just north of Pine Street.

Officers:

President—True Partridge.

Vice-President—Mrs. A. W. Wright.

Secretary—Mrs. Agatha Hanson.

Treasurer—L. O. Christensen.

Sergeant-at-Arms—W. S. Root.

Bible Class for the deaf meets on the second and fourth Sunday of each month at 3:30 p. m. in Trinity Parish Church, corner Eighth Ave. & James St. All welcome.

Olof Hanson, Lay-reader, in charge.

MRS. SOPHIA GALLAUDET.

The following sketch is taken from the Silent Hoosier:

"Mis Sophia Fowler was born near Guilford, Conn., March 20, 1798. Her parents belonged to the hardy, independent, pious, and active-minded race of farmers from whom have descended the great majority of the many distinguished sons and daughters of New England.

"When a child, she knew the deficiencies of her intellectual acquirements as compared with those of her young associates and they were painfully evident to her. She, however, played their games and amusements. From childhood she grew to young womanhood with scarcely a glimpse at the ample page of knowledge and received no mental instruction save through the disconnected natural signs of her friends, who could hardly treat more than the objects of vision. She early learned to discriminate between the false and the true and grew to be a very modest woman. She was kindly, conscientious, cheerful and pious. During these calm years she quietly performed her household duties and became an adept.

"In the spring of 1817 her father heard that some gentlemen at Hartford were about to establish a school for the deaf. There was at that time not a single school for the deaf in this country and only three in the world. Soon after, hearing that these gentlemen were at New Haven, Conn., he went there to meet them, taking Sophia with him. Mr. Fowler told his daughter by natural signs of his hope that they would teach her to read, write, and cipher. She grew happy at the thought. This was the first glimpse that she had of Rev. Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet. He was just entering upon his new enterprise, which has since spread over the whole of North America and his name will be forever blessed not merely by the deaf of the United States but by the deaf of the world. Miss Sophia Fowler's name appears as the fifteenth in order of those received at the Hartford School that fall at the opening, Alice Cogswell's name heading the list.

"In the spring of 1821, her studies were interrupted in a manner quite unanticipated by all the parties except one,—it was a proposal of marriage from Rev. Thos. H. Gallaudet. For more than a year Rev. Gallaudet had carefully concealed his feelings of love to Sophia out of regard for the young woman's position, as his pupil. He observed the same attitude toward her as he did toward the other girls in his class. When he proposed to her the first feelings excited in her were those of unmixed surprise.

"On her return to Hartford, she was received not only with kindness, but also with honor.

"Her home at Hartford soon drew



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many visitors, among them men and women famous in art and science, in letters and politics, and, indeed, in almost every walk of life. She bore these burdens carefully, gladly, and no less successfully. They both were very happy together during all these years.

"Dr. Gallaudet's health had been poor for many years and on September 10, 1851, he quietly passed away. He was mourned by people in all ranks of life because his sympathies were so broad that they had touched not only the deaf, but also the prisoner in his cell and the insane patient in his ward. Mrs. Gallaudet was left a widow with eight children, the youngest child, Edward Miner, a boy of fourteen. Fortunately some of them were of an age to provide in a measure for their own wants. Mrs. Gallaudet maintained her home and kept a home for those who were not married.

"In 1857, her son Edward was summoned to take charge of the newly-founded Columbia Institution (now Gallaudet College) at Washington, D. C., and his mother became the head

of the domestic department. At the Capitol the members of Congress could not but bear away the most favorable opinions of the enterprise which promised to educate the deaf as they encountered such a queenly woman in her.

Mrs. Gallaudet was a staunch Christian and also put into practice all of the Christian virtues. On the 13th of May, 1877, she retired to the privacy of her own bed-room and as she was kneeling and pouring out her thanks to God in prayer the fatal stroke of apoplexy fell upon her and she died at the ripe age of seventy-nine. Funeral services were first held at Washington, and then her body was taken at Hartford, Conn., and laid to rest beside her husband amid the groves of Cedar Hill. The deaf of the United States who had come into contact with her beautiful life felt that they had lost a motherly woman and one who had done and was doing a great work for the deaf."

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